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ABSTRACT

To assist the youthful learner of English as a second language in dealing with handling such emergencies as fire, robbery, and car accidents, a series of dialogs, comprehension questions, readings, and points of discussion are presented. The text is illustrated. (JB)

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ED195144

STUDENT LESSON #9

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

English for Living

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OBJECTIVES

When you complete these units you will know how to:

1. Report a fire.
2. Call an ambulance.
3. Report an accident.

UNIT 1

FIRE AND POLICE EMERGENCIES

SITUATION SETTER

It is important to know what to do in case of an emergency. In America, the fire department, police department and ambulance services help people in emergencies. You should know the telephone numbers of your local police department, fire department, and ambulance service. You should keep the numbers in a place where you can find them easily.

If you don't know the telephone number of the fire department, police department, or ambulance service, you can dial "O" for the operator and explain the problem to her. She can help you.

Here is an example of what to do if a fire starts in your house or apartment:

DIALOG

Juan's house is on fire. He goes to a neighbor's house to call the fire department.

Juan: Operator, this is an emergency. I want the fire department.
Operator: I'll connect you.
Fireman: Fire department.
Juan: My house is on fire!
Fireman: What's the address?
Juan: 140 Western Avenue.
Fireman: Do you also need an ambulance?
Juan: Yes, my son is hurt.
Fireman: Okay, we'll send one.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. What happened in Juan's apartment?
2. What did Juan do?
3. Who was hurt?
4. Who did Juan call to report the fire?

MICROCONVERSATION: Practice the following conversation with another student.

Student A: Fire department.
Student B: My house is on fire.
stove
basement
attic
garage
apartment
kitchen
dryer

Student A: What's the address?
Student B: 35 Central Avenue.
Student A: Fire department.
Student B: My furnace exploded.
stove
hot water tank
space heater

POINTS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Where's the fire department in your neighborhood? What's the phone number? (Find out!)
2. If you don't know the phone number, whom should you call?
3. What questions will the fire department ask?
4. If someone is hurt, what should you do?
5. Does every town in your country have a fire department?
6. Are the firemen paid in your country, or are they volunteers?
7. Have you ever been in a fire? If so, tell about it.

READING

Many buildings have fire alarm boxes. You should find out where the fire alarm boxes are in the buildings where you work or go to school. A fire alarm box sends out an alarm to warn the people in the building. It also tells the fire department that there is a fire. It is another way to report a fire. Fire alarm boxes have directions on them that tell you how to use them. A fire alarm box usually looks like this:

Many buildings have fire extinguishers. Fire extinguishers can be used to put out small fires. There are directions on the extinguisher that tell you how to use it. There are different kinds of extinguishers for different kinds of fires. There is one kind for paper and wood fires, another kind for electrical fires, and another for chemical fires. The directions on the extinguisher tell you what kinds of fires can be put out with it.

Sometimes when you are cooking, grease may catch fire on the stove. If you do not have a fire extinguisher in your kitchen, keep some baking soda nearby. If you pour the baking soda on the fire, it will put out the fire.

You can buy small fire extinguishers for your house or car in most hardware stores, and in some department stores and supermarkets. It is a good idea to have one fire extinguisher in your kitchen and another in your car.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. What is a fire alarm box?
2. What two things does it do?
3. How do you find out how to use one?
4. What is a fire extinguisher?
5. How do you find out how to use it?
6. What are some different kinds of fire extinguishers?
7. Where can you buy a fire extinguisher?
8. In what two places is it a good idea to keep a fire extinguisher?
9. What can you use to put out a fire on your stove if you don't have a fire extinguisher?

UNIT 2

HEALTH EMERGENCIES

SITUATION SETTER

Most communities have ambulance services for people who need to get to the hospital quickly. There are two different kinds of ambulance services. One is a private ambulance service that you must pay for. The other is paid for by the community, so you don't have to pay if you must use it. You should find out what ambulance services there are where you live and how much they cost. You should keep the telephone numbers of the ambulance service near your telephone. Remember, if you don't know the number of the ambulance service, you can dial "O" for operator.

DIALOG

Juan's son burned himself. Juan is calling the ambulance service.

Voice: Parkside Ambulance Service.
Juan: I need an ambulance.
Voice: What's your name and address?
Juan: Juan Rivera, 68 Central Avenue.
Voice: What's the problem?
Juan: My son burned himself. It looks very serious.

MICROCONVERSATION 1: Practice the following conversation with another student.

Student A: What's the problem? *
trouble? *
nature of the problem? *

Student B: My brother burned himself.
mother fell down the stairs.
father had a heart attack.
sister broke her arm.

MICROCONVERSATION 2

Student A: Where did it happen?
What's the location?

Student B: On the corner of Central and State Streets.
In front of the Court House on State Street.
On Park Avenue between Second Street and Third Street.

POINTS FOR DISCUSSION

1. How do you get an ambulance?
2. What questions do they ask you?
3. Do you have to pay for an ambulance?
4. Why do they ask, "What is the problem?"
5. How do you get to the hospital in an emergency in your country?
6. Have you ever been in the hospital? If so, tell us about it.
7. Have you ever had to call an ambulance? If so, why?
8. Have you ever been in an ambulance?

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* Note: The person on the phone will ask this kind of question because he or she needs to know what to bring to the house—oxygen, a stretcher, etc.

CONVERSATION PRACTICE

If you need to use an ambulance, the ambulance attendant will ask you some questions. Here are some he or she might ask:

1. What's your doctor's name?
   Who's your doctor?
2. What hospital is he or she with?
3. What hospital do you want to go to?

Practice asking another student some of these questions. He or she should answer truthfully, using real information.

SITUATION SETTER

Juan's son, Carlos, had a serious accident. Yesterday afternoon, on the way home from school, another car hit his car. Carlos' car was damaged. He went to the nearest phone and called the police.

DIALOG

Police: Police department.
Carlos: I want to report an accident.
Police: Is anyone injured?
Carlos: No, but my car is wrecked.
Police: What's the location?
Carlos: It's on the corner of Western and Manning.
Police: We'll be right there.

MICROCONVERSATION: Practice the following conversation with another student.

Student A: I want to report an accident.
a robbery.*
a burglary.*
a mugging.*

Student B: Is anyone injured?
hurt?
seriously injured?

Student A: I'm not sure.
Yes.
I don't think so.

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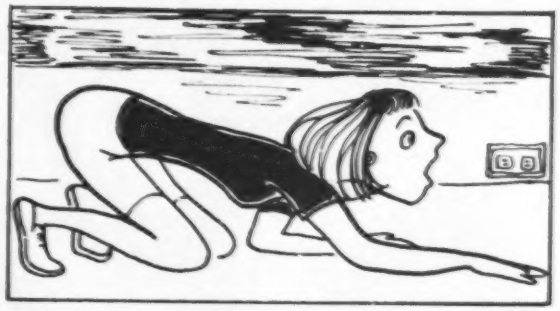
* Robbery: Stealing, a theft; taking something unlawfully.
Burglary: Stealing from a place, an apartment or house.
Mugging: Attacking a person violently to rob him or her.

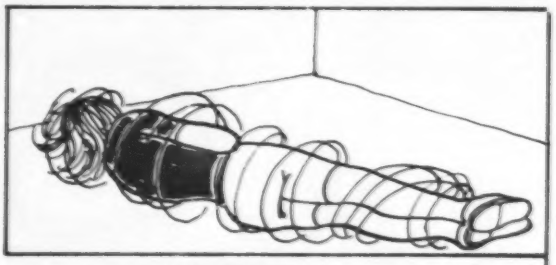
READING

Many people die in fires every year. They die because they do not know what to do when a fire breaks out. It is important to know what to do if a fire breaks out. Families should practice what they will do in case of a fire. The first and most important thing to do is to make sure everyone is out of the house. Then call the fire department.

If you are in an office or apartment building when a fire breaks out, do not use the elevator. Use the stairways. Stairways have signs that say EXIT.

Do not try to go out through smoke-filled halls. Smoke can kill, so you must shut as many doors between you and the fire as possible. Go to a window where you can get fresh air, and shout for help. Don't jump from high floors. Wait for the fire department to rescue you.





If you get caught in smoke, get down on the floor and crawl. Cool air is near the floor. If your clothes catch on fire, roll on the floor or the ground to put the fire out. Before opening any closed door, touch it with your hand to see if it is hot. If it feels hot, don't open it. There is probably a fire on the other side.

It is important to know what to do in emergencies. Your local fire department will be happy to give you information on how to prevent fires and what to do in case of fire.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS 1

Make up as many questions as you can from this reading. Have your neighbor answer them. Here are some examples:

Student A: If your clothes caught fire, what would you do?

Student B: I would roll on the floor.

Student A: If your son burned himself badly, what would you do?

Student B: I'd call an ambulance.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS 2

1. Juan likes to fry fish for dinner. If he is cooking fish and the oil catches fire, what should he do?
   shouldn't he do?
2. The electric wiring in Juan's apartment is very old. If the bad wiring in Juan's apartment starts an electrical fire, what should he do?
   shouldn't he do?
3. Juan and his wife like to go to the movies. If they come home and discover they have been burglarized, what should they do?
4. Carlos often goes to football games. He parks his car in the parking lot. If he hits a car which is parked next to his, what should he do?
5. Juan drives home from work everyday. If he sees a car go off the road and hit a tree, what should he do?
6. Maria goes to the store to buy groceries everyday. She parks her car and goes into the store. She leaves the store after a few minutes. If her car is missing, what should she do?
7. Juan and Maria's neighbors are away on vacation. If they notice some smoke coming out of their neighbor's house, what should they do?
8. Carlos drives to school everyday. He always stops at STOP signs. If a car behind him does not stop and hits his car, what should Carlos do?